



## CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE

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March 20, 2003

Honorable Terrance R. Duncan  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
Monterey County  
P. O. Box 1819  
Salinas, CA 93902

Dear Judge Duncan:

Please accept the following as the response from the City of Pacific Grove concerning the 2002 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Report.

The responses were approved by the Pacific Grove City Council at their meeting of March 19, 2003.

### **Supplement To The Mid-Year Final Report On Availability Of Water On The Monterey Peninsula**

**Finding 6.** *The results of the voting on Measure B indicate the desire of the majority of voters within the MPWMD to abolish the water district. The advisory vote on the question "Should the MPWMD be dissolved?" was 66.5% in favor and 33.5% opposed.*

### **Recommendations:**

- 1. The November 2002 advisory vote of the affected residents should be taken as a mandate and the existence of the MPWMD be terminated by proper political process. That the Cities and County mount a joint effort to have their state legislators sponsor a bill in the legislature to dissolve the MPWMD.*

### **Response:**

This has been partially implemented. The Mayor of the City of Pacific Grove is working with the City of Monterey and other peninsula cities within the MPWMD jurisdiction, and has assisted the City of Monterey in

offering suggestions to our legislators to amend water district enabling legislation to change the governance structure of the District.

2. *One of the following options be chosen in place of the current MPWMD: A) no new agency, leaving Cal Am to operate as it does in most other areas, under the aegis of the existing state agencies; or B) a joint powers agency with a board of directors comprised of appointees from those same cities and the County.*

**Response:**

The Mayor of the City of Pacific Grove has worked with the City of Monterey and other cities in the jurisdiction of the MPWMD to offer suggestions to our state legislators to develop legislation within the current legislative session that would amend the MPWMD enabling legislation in such a way as to replace the current governance structure with a joint powers authority, comprised of many of the entities that currently manage the Monterey Regional Waste Management District and Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency.

**Fluoridation of Drinking Water in Monterey County**

*Finding 1: Fluoridation of drinking water will provide a positive health benefit to the citizens of the County with the greatest benefit accruing to the most disadvantaged citizens."*

**Response:** The City of Pacific Grove does not have the staff with the technical expertise to either agree or disagree with this finding.

*Finding 2. With the possible exception of smaller water systems, start-up and operations costs of drinking water fluoridation are more than offset by cost avoidance in the areas of dental and general health care.*

**Response:** The City of Pacific Grove does not have the ability to analyze this assertion to determine whether we agree or disagree with this finding.

*Finding 3. There are a multitude of water providers and jurisdictions within the County, and there is no coordinated advocacy program joining political leadership and health professions to implement fluoridation of drinking water.*

**Response:** The City of Pacific Grove agrees with this finding. Providing drinking water is not a service of the City of Pacific Grove, nor does the City currently have jurisdiction over this service.

*Recommendation 3: The Cities of Carmel-by-the-Sea, Del Rey Oaks, King City, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Salinas, Sand City, and Seaside (for areas serviced by*

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*CAL-AM) which are serviced by private providers, seek funding and express public support for implementation of water fluoridation by their water suppliers, and establish a schedule to accomplish these goals.*

Response: The City of Pacific Grove does not provide water services, nor does the City currently have jurisdiction over this service. The City does not believe that this issue should be decided by or otherwise involve local governments at this time. There are members of this community who support and oppose fluoridation, and if funds are made available to provide for fluoridation, this issue should be brought to the people of the community by the water purveyor.

Thank you for this opportunity to respond to the 2002 Civil Grand Jury Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Morris G. Fisher", written in a cursive style.

Morris G. Fisher  
Mayor